

The Poison Of Emotional Faith

Push Back Series

BUYER'S REMORSE

Emotional buying can create second-guessing. Emotional buying typically leads to "buyer's remorse." Buyer's remorse is tied to the regret of the decision once the emotional pleasure has worn off. It causes you to have regret of your decision. It causes you to waver about your decision when the decision is based solely on an emotional reasoning.

***Do you have a story where emotional buying caused you regret?**

***How did you deal with it?**

But when it comes to your faith, you cannot live a life second-guessing it. You can't second-guess your faith every time an emotional crisis looms on your horizon.

***Has there been a time where you second-guessed your faith? What happened?**

CHRISTIANS & EMOTIONS

*We often praise the extrovert for great faith while questioning the introvert's lack of faith.

*Genuine faith is more than just outward demonstration.

*Pentecostal praise vs. Hymnal singing - which is a greater demonstration of genuine faith?

*Much of our pleas in Christianity are emotional pleas. (Salvation, offerings, serving)

***Why do we so often connect 'genuine faith' to overt an outward expression of faith?**

***What is the detriment for emotional pleas when it comes to genuine faith?**

***If genuine faith is more than outward demonstration - how would you best define genuine faith?**

POINTS TO PONDER

1. Is emotional faith really faith?
2. If circumstances, people, or events can sway your faith, it's probably emotional faith.
3. Emotional faith is poisoning to the truth of "He that endures to the end shall be saved." (*Matthew 24:13*)
4. Emotional faith produces a spoiled Christian who falls apart at every crisis.

Discuss This: *Emotional faith produces a spoiled Christian.*

BIG IDEA: You can't put God "on trial" every time things don't go your way.

SCRIPTURE READING Daniel 3

- *Music had a way to stir the emotions for emotional worship. (vs. 5)
- *Emotional worship had to have a threat attached to it to make it valid. (vs.6)
- *Emotional faith is grounded in narcissism and self gratification.
- *Meaning "I worship only as it is convenient and beneficial for my gain."
- *Genuine faith isn't governed by circumstance, pleasure, or self gratification. (vs.12)
- *Genuine faith will always be grounded in GOD and GOD ALONE. (vs. 18)
- *"But even if He doesn't" is the mantra for genuine faith = meaning your faith is grounded in God not in you. It's grounded in His ability not your circumstance.
- *Why didn't Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego walk out of the fire before they were called out of the fire by Nebuchadnezzar?
- *Genuine faith is always hard to explain to the world. It's hard for the unsaved to understand the nature and ways of God. (vs. 25)
- *Genuine faith is undeniable. It's the most authentic way to display the glory of Jesus. (vs. 28-30)

SCRIPTURE READING Job 40:1-3

- *Job was reprimanded for trying to be God's critic.
- *Job decided it was best to 'hush his mouth' and let God provide the answers.
- *Are you willing to serve Him - not for what He does - but for Who He is?

***Do you find it hard to 'hush your mouth' and let the answer remain in God's hand?**

***Why is 'hushing our mouth' a good practice to have?**

***Are you content in NOT KNOWING all the answers to life?**

***Can you still trust God when you DON'T KNOW the answer?**

THE TAKE AWAY: Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego - Will you still trust Him "EVEN IF HE STILL DOESN'T"?

- *Even if God never answered another prayer - will you still trust Him?
- *Even if God never did another thing for your - will you still trust Him?
- *Is your trust in what God does or who He is?